GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2429
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2017
Pitiable Condition of Weavers
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Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the pitiable condition of weavers in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the steps taken/being taken to improve the condition of weavers in the country;

(c) the names of welfare schemes launched to improve the condition of weavers in the country during each of the last three years and the current year and their status of implementation, State/UT- wise; and

(d) the amount of funds released for the purpose during the said period, State/ UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES
(SHRI AJAY TAMTA)

(a): The weavers in the country are working in handloom and powerloom sector which come under the unorganized/ small scale sectors. No report is received by the government related to the pitiable condition of handloom or powerloom weavers.

(b) to (d): Handloom Weavers: In the handloom sector, National Handloom Development Programme is being implemented for development and welfare of handlooms weavers through Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS), with two components namely Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY) and Health Insurance Scheme (HIS).

(i) The basic objective of Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana is to provide insurance cover to the handloom weavers in the case of natural as well as accidental death & total or partial Disability.

Benefits under the MGBBY:-

S. No. Benefits

(i) Natural Death Rs.60,000/-
(ii) Accidental Death Rs. 1,50,000/-
(iii) Total Disability Rs. 1,50,000/-
(iv) Partial Disability Rs. 75,000/-

The total premium share from Government of India, Weaver and Implementing Agency are as per details given below:-

S. No. Share of Premium Amount in Rs.
1. Government of India 290/-per weaver
2. Weaver 80/-
3. Implementing Agency 100/-
Total: 470/-

In addition to above, a scholarship of Rs.300/- per quarter per child is available to students studying in IX to XII standard for a maximum period of four years or till they complete XII standard, whichever event occurs earlier. The benefit is restricted to two children of the member covered.

MGBBY is under convergence into Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY).

(ii) In 12th Five Year Plan, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved implementation of Health Insurance Scheme (HIS) on Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY) pattern of Ministry of Labour & Employment (MoLE). RSBY has been transferred to Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoH&FW) w.e.f. 1st April 2015.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has issued detailed instructions on 29th March,2016 for coverage of handloom weavers for 2016-17 in the existing pattern of RSBY i.e. with Indoor Patient (I.P.) benefits of Rs.30,000/-. The revised funding pattern is 60:40 between Central government & State government.

The enrolment of Handloom weavers State/UT-wise under the Handloom Weavers under these Schemes are given at Annexure-I.

State/UT-wise funds are not allocated/released under these schemes. Funds released on entire country basis, funds released/utilized under the Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme during the last three year and current year is given as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

Year(s)	Fund released
2013-14	66.04
2014-15	42.26
2015-16	18.61
2016-17	26.56

Powerloom Weavers: In order to overcome the problems faced by the powerloom weavers and for the development of decentralised powerloom sector, Government is implementing a number of schemes such as Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme for upgradation of technology & In-situ upgradation scheme for upgradation of plain powerlooms, Group workshed scheme for giving assistance for constructing workshed for powerloom sector, Group Insurance Scheme, Integrated Scheme for Powerloom Sector Development (ISPSD) for extending assistance for marketing support in the form of Buyer Seller Meet, Yarn Bank, setting up of facility for Common Facility Centre organizing Seminar/ Workshop regarding Government support for Schemes. A corpus fund for yarn Bank is provided under the Integrated Scheme for Powerloom Sector Development, to provide interest free corpus to set up Yarn Banks.

In order to provide the powerloom weavers/ workers insurance cover in the case of natural death, accidental death as well as partial and permanent disability due to accident, the GOI launched a welfare schemes to improve the condition of weavers viz. the Group Insurance Scheme in the year 2003-04. The details of the scheme and financial achievement in terms of funds utilisation, allocated under the various powerloom development schemes, state / UT wise for the last three years and current year is mentioned in the enclosed Annexure-II.